Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/706,188	VONLANTHEN, ANDI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Brian Ensey	2643
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED if or other appropriate comm IGHTS. This application is 3 and MPEP 1308.	in this application. If not included nunication will be mailed in due course. THIS
2.   The allowed claim(s) is/are 14-28 renumbered 1-15.	<u> </u>	
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3. The drawings filed on are accepted by the Examine	r.	
<ul> <li>4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ur</li> <li>a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:</li> <li>1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> </ul>		or (f).
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No		
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the		
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).		
* Certified copies not received:		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.  5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
	, ,	r designation is denoted.
<ul> <li>6.                    CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.         </li> <li>(a)</li></ul>		
1)  hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date		
(b) ⊠ including changes required by the attached Examiner' Paper No./Mail Date 01/17/05.		or in the Office action of
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t	.84(c)) should be written on the header according to 37 C	the drawings in the front (not the back) of FR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.		
Attachment(s)		
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of I	nformal Patent Application (PTO-152)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		Summary (PTO-413), ./Mail Date
Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/C     Paper No./Mail Date	08), 7. ⊠ Examiner's	s Amendment/Comment
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	<del>-</del> -	s Statement of Reasons for Allowance
of Biological Material	9. 🗌 Other	- 10/
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		dupins kuntz
	SUPE	RVISORY PATENT/EXAMINER
LLS Patent and Trademark Office	TE	CHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Moore on February 17, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In claim 14, in the preamble on line 1, "module comprising" has been changed to -- module with a size adapted to be mounted into a hearing aid device comprising:--.

The drawings filed on 06/20/03 are not acceptable. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because lettering and numbers are illegible, margins are not uniform and lines are not uniform. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsperson outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a method and device for controlling the dynamic range of a hearing aid. Each

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independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a converter module for use in a

hearing device having an input impedance controller for adapting the impedance to any one of a

plurality of electrical signal output devices having different electrical characteristics. The closest

prior art, Charpentier et al. (US 5321758) teaches an integrated circuit chip to vary the input

impedance to a speaker under variable load conditions. The prior art fails to anticipate or render

the independent claims obvious.

The following references were cited: Engrebretson et al. (US 4548082) teaches a hearing

aid in which a DSP is used to calibrate input impedance and Krauss (US 5189704) teaches a

hearing aid circuit having an output stage wit a variable resistance to limit output level.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Brian Ensey whose telephone number is 703-305-7363. The

examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, for formal communications intended for entry and for

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informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT". Hand-delivered responses should be brought to: Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Arlington, VA 22314

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BKE

February 17, 2005

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